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EXAMINER	
PHAM, KHANH B	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2177	

DATE MAILED: 09/25/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/575,403	CHANEY ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Khanh B. Pham	2177	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *14 August 2003* .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-37* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-37* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114.

2. Applicant's amendment filed on August 14, 2003 has been entered. Claims 1, 9, 11, 13, 24, 30, and 34 have been amended.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 25-26 are objected to because of the following informalities: claims 25-26 depend on claim 27. Dependent claims 25-26 should be numbered consecutively following their independent claim. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

5. **Claims 1-24, 26-29 are rejected** under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Padwick et al. ("Using Microsoft Outlook 2000"), hereinafter referred to as "Padwick".

As per claim 1, Padwick discloses a method for organizing and grouping metadata for display during operation of a program, the method comprising:

- "during the operation of the program, receiving a selection from a user of a category property set from a plurality of category property sets, wherein each of the category property sets defines the data fields for a selected category of content files" (page 949, steps 1-3 and Fig. 38.6)
- "during the operation of the program, receiving a selection from the user of a first display set that defines a first set of metadata" (page 949, step 4)
- "during the operation of the program, receiving instructions from the user that at least a portion of the set of category property set fields are related to the first display set" (Page 950, Fig. 38.7);
- "during the operation of the program, receiving a selection from the user of a second display set that defines a second set of metadata" (Pages 953-954: "Changing the Fields Displayed in a View" section and Fig. 38.6)
- "during the operation of the program, receiving instructions from a user that designate that at least a portion of the set of category property set fields are related to the second display" (Pages 955-956, "Adding a Field to a view" section and Fig. 38.7); and
- "during the operation of the program, displaying at least a portion of the first or second display set fields" at Figs. 38.8.

As per claim 2, Padwick teaches the method of claim 1, wherein "a property set field may be related to more than one display set" at pages 947-948.

As per claim 3, Padwick teaches the method of claim 1, wherein "a display set may be related to more than one property set field" at pages 947-948.

As per claim 4, Padwick teaches the method of claim 1, wherein "selecting a set of fields of metadata includes:

- "creating new fields of metadata" at Page 958, "Creating a New Field" section;
- "using existing field of metadata" at Page 958, Fig. 38.13;
- "creating new fields of metadata and using existing fields of metadata" at Page 958.

As per claim 5, Padwick teaches the method of claim 1, wherein "selecting a property set includes: creating a new property set; or using an existing property set" at Page 950, Fig. 38.7.

As per claim 6, Padwick teaches the method of claim 1, wherein "selecting a first display set includes: "creating a new display set or using an existing display set" at Page 950 (i.e., "you can modify any outlook's default views and you can create additional views.")

As per claim 7, Padwick teaches the method of claim 1, wherein "selecting a second display set includes: "creating a new display set; or using an existing display set" at Page 950, Fig. 38.7.

As per claim 8, Padwick teaches the method of claim 1, further comprising: "storing at least one of the set of field of metadata, the property set, the set of property

fields, the first display set, the set of first display set field, the second display grouping, or the set of second display set field in a database" at Page 950, Fig. 38.7.

As per claim 9, Padwick teaches a method for organizing metadata during the operation of a program comprising:

- "in response to a user request, creating a category property set, wherein each of the category property sets defines the data fields for a selected category of content files" at Pages 949-950, Figs. 38.6 and 38.7;
- "selecting a set of metadata fields related to the category property set" at page 950, Fig. 38.7;
- "creating a set of display grouping" at page 951, Fig. 38.8;
- "grouping the selected set of metadata fields into at least one of the display groupings to form metadata field grouping" at Page 959, "Grouping Items" section.

As per claim 10, Padwick teaches the method of claim 9, further comprising: "storing the property set, the set of display groupings, and the metadata field grouping in a database" at Page 950, Fig. 38.7.

As per claim 11, Padwick teaches a method for dynamically display a set of metadata comprising:

- "identifying a category property set wherein the category property set is associated with a set of display groupings and a set of metadata fields wherein the metadata fields are related to at least one of the display groupings" at Pages 949-950;

- "dynamically generating a display structure comprising display grouping structures that are based at least in part upon the set of display groupings" at Page 951, Fig. 38.8;
- "dynamically populating the display groupings with metadata field structures" at Page 962, "Visually Setting up Grouping" section;
- "dynamically populating the metadata field structures with the related metadata field data, and display the display structure" at page 963, Figs. 38.19 – 38.20.

As per claim 12, Padwick teaches the method of claim 11, wherein "receiving a set of metadata field data includes: "sending a request for metadata field data to a metadata database, and receiving a set of metadata field data from the metadata database related to the request" at Page 950, Fig. 38.7.

As per claim 13, Padwick teaches a method for allowing a user to edit metadata using a graphical user interface comprising:

- "querying a metadata database for a set of metadata" at Page 950, Fig. 38.7;
- "dynamically displaying the set of metadata in a display window in a graphic user interface wherein the set of metadata data is organized into category sets and display window groups" at Fig. 38.7;
- "receiving a request from a user to alter the type of the displayed metadata data" Page 950, "Modifying a View" section;

- "processing the request to alter the displayed metadata data, updating the display of the metadata data in the display window" at Pages 950-954.

As per claim 14, Padwick teaches the method of claim 13, wherein "processing the request to alter the displayed metadata data includes updating the corresponding metadata data in the metadata database" at page 953, "Changing the Fields Displayed in a View" section.

As per claim 15, Padwick teaches the method of claim 13, wherein "processing the request to alter the displayed metadata data includes logging the request in a metadata database update log" at pages 971, "Resetting a view to its original state".

As per claim 16, Padwick teaches the method of claim 13, wherein "processing the request to alter the displayed metadata data includes processing the request to alter related metadata data that is not displayed" at page 973, Fig. 38.31.

As per claim 17, Padwick teaches a metadata editor system comprising;

- "a metadata organization database configured to store category and property information about metadata " at pages 947-948;
- "a graphical user interface display module configured to display subsets of the metadata wherein the subsets of metadata are organized by display groups, and wherein the types of fields in the display groups are configurable by a user" at Pages 949-950, Figs. 38.6 – 38.7.

As per claim 18, Padwick teaches the method of claim 17, further comprises "a metadata update module configured to receive updates to the metadata from a user, send the updates to the metadata database, and send the updates to the graphical user

interface displayed module" at Pages 953-956, "Changing the Fields Displayed in a View" section.

As per claim 19, Padwick teaches a metadata editor system comprising:

- "means for storing metadata organization data wherein the metadata organization data includes groupings that define subsets of metadata as well as display sets," at Pages 947-950;
- "means for displaying subsets of metadata wherein the subsets of metadata are organized by display set and wherein the type of fields in the display groups are configurable by a user" at Pages 950-951, Figs. 38.7 – 38.8.

As per claim 20, Padwick teaches the metadata editor system of claim 17, additionally comprising "a display for displaying the metadata" at Fig. 38.8.

As per claim 21, Padwick teaches the metadata editor system of claim 17, additionally comprising "a mouse for selecting the metadata" at Page 949 (i.e., "move the pointer...")

As per claim 22, Padwick teaches the metadata editor system of claim 19, additionally comprising "a display for displaying the metadata" at Page 951, Fig. 38.8.

As per claim 23, Padwick teaches the metadata editor system of claim 19, additionally comprising "a mouse for selecting the metadata" at at Page 949 (i.e., "move the pointer...")

As per claim 24, Padwick teaches a method of customize the display of metadata comprising:

- "identifying a category that classifies at least one content file, wherein the category is associated with a plurality of type of metadata files, and wherein each of types of metadata data fields has associated metadata" at Pages 947-950;
- "providing an interface for allowing a user to modify the metadata and the types of metadata field that are associated with the category" at Pages 949-950, Figs. 38.6 – 38.7;
- "in response to user selection, displaying the metadata that is associated with the identified category" at page 950, Fig. 38.7.

As per claim 27, Padwick teaches a method for organizing and grouping metadata comprising:

- "selecting, via at least one graphical interface, a category property of the set of fields of metadata as related to the category sets" at Page 949, Fig. 38.6;
- "designating, via at least one graphical interface, at least a portion of the set of fields of metadata as related to the category property set to create a set of property set fields" at Page 950, Fig. 38.7;
- "selecting, via at least one graphical interface, a first display set" at Page 949, steps 1-3;
- "designating, via at least one graphical interface, at least a portion of the set of category property set fields as related to the first display set to create a set of first display set fields" at Fig. 38.7;
- "selecting, via at least one graphical interface, a second display set, designating, via at least one graphical interface, at least a portion of the set of category

property set fields as related to the second display set to create a set of second display set fields" at Fig. 38.7;

- "in response to selecting the category property set, displaying at least a portion of the first and second display set fields" at page 951, Fig. 38.8.

As per claim 26, Padwick teaches the method of claim 27, additionally comprising "in response to request from the user, adding a new type of metadata field" at page 955, "Adding a Field to a View" section.

As per claim 28, Padwick teaches the method of claim 27, wherein "a property set field is related to more than one display set" at pages 947-948.

As per claim 29, Padwick teaches the method of claim 27, wherein "a display set is related to more than one property set field" at pages 947-948.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. **Claims 25, 30-37 are rejected** under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Padwick as applied to claims 1-24, 26-29 above, and in view of Hempleman (US 6,243,725 B1).

As per claim 25, Padwick teaches the same as stated in claim 27 discussed above. Padwick does not teach: "the category identifies a genre of music." However, Hempleman teaches a method for displaying category associated with media files wherein "the category identifies a genre of music at Fig. 4G. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify Padwick's teaching such that "the category identifies a genre of music" in order to allow user to easily recognize the select appropriate type of music base on the metadata associated with the media file.

As per claims 30, 34, Padwick teaches a method of modifying the display groups of metadata comprising:

- "Providing a graphical user interface for allowing a user to create a type of data field to a display group that identifies metadata that is to be displayed" at Pages 950, Fig. 38.7;
- "providing a graphical user interface for allowing a user to provide data for the added data type" at page 958, Fig. 38.14;
- "displaying the display group having the added type of data field and the provided data for the added data type" at Figs. 38.19 – 38.20.

Padwick does not explicitly teach that the metadata that is to be display with "respect to a plurality of media files". How ever, it is well known in the art to display metadata associated with media files such as audio or video files to provide more information about the media files, as exemplified by Hempleman at Fig. 4F. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art at the time of the invention to use

Padwick teaching to modify and display metadata "with respect to a plurality of media files" so that information about the media files could be organize and display to the user to give the user more information about the media files.

As per claims 31, 35, Padwick and Hempleman teach the method of claims 30 and 34 as stated above. Hempleman also teaches: "the added data field identifies a track name" at Fig. 4F.

As per claims 32, 36, Padwick and Hempleman teach the method of claims 30, 34 as stated above. Hempleman also teaches: "the added data field describes a characteristic of an item of music" at Fig. 4F.

As per claim 33, 37, Padwick and Hempleman teach the method of claims 30, 34 as stated above. Padwick also teaches: "graphical user interface allows the user to remove data field from the display group" at page 950, Fig. 38.7.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-37 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record, listed on form PTO-892, and not relied upon, if any, is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

If a reference indicated as being mailed on PTO-FORM 892 has not been enclosed in this action, please contact Lisa Craney whose telephone number is **(703) 305-9601** for faster service.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khanh B. Pham whose telephone number is (703) 308-7299. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 7:30am to 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E Breene can be reached on (703) 305-9790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)746-7240.

Khanh B. Pham
Examiner
Art Unit 2177

KBP
September 15, 2003

JEAN R. HOMERE
PRIMARY EXAMINER